Railway accidents due to Bomb blasts

2305. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of railway accidents due to bomb blasts that took place during the last two months; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to make rail travel safe ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The Ministry of Railways have informed that there were two train accidents due to bomb blast during the period 1-3-90 to 30-4-1990.

(b) Since law and order is a State subject, policing on the railways is done by the respective State Governments. In order to make rail travel safe, the State Police authorities have been conducting checking of passengers' luggage and trains in affected areas. Track patrolling is also being done by the State Police in such cases.

As far as Railways are concerned, thorough inspection of coaches is undertaken in washing lines/yards before their placement on platforms. Pilot engines are run before passenger trains wherever required. The movement of passenger trains, in extreme emergent situation is restricted to day hours only. The travelling public is also warned through public address system, through T.V. and posters, not to touch or handle any unclaimed/suspicious object and to report the matter to the Railway/Police authorities, if and when any such object comes to notice.

STD facility in Andhra Pradesh

2306. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of new towns and centres expected to be provided with STD in Andhra Pradesh during the year 1990-91; and

(b) the names of such towns in West Godavari district to be provided with STD facility in 1990-91 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Akiveedu, Baptala, Bellampalli, Bhuvanagr, Bodhan, Bollaram, Dronachalam, Garividi, Kamareddy, Mandapeta, Maruguru, Miryalguda, Nagar Kurnool, Narketpally, Palavoncha, Parvathipuram, Peddapalli, Penukonda, Pithapuram, Repale, Toopran, Sattanapalli, Sullurpet, Sirpurkagaznagar, Remiguru

Madarapuram, Medchal, Shamshabad, Palavancha, Jeedimetla, Vanasthalpuram. (29 Stations)

(b) Akiveedu (since commissioned)

Political subversion in Punjab

2307. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab Government have realised the grave threat of political subversion to the State and has appraised the Centre of it;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to take any firm steps in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The Government is aware of the challenges posed by the terrorists including fresh upsurge of violence whenever there are signs of change in the situation in Punjab and fresh initiatives are taken to improve the political environment. The Government is determined to restore peace and normalcy in the State and put down violence and threats to the unity and integrity of the country with a firm hand.

The Central Government is in constant touch with the Government of Punjab and renders all assistance to them as may be required.

Area of India

2308. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the area of India as on 1st January, 1935, 1st February, 1947, 1st September, 1947, 1st December, 1962 and 1st January, 1990;

(b) whether the area had diminished each time, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is Government's considered view in regard to be back at the 1st September, 1947 level ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) (i) 48,81,339.3 Sq. Kms.

(ii) The area as on 1-2-1947 was not specifically determined but for prepartition India before 14th August, 1947 it was 42,25,036 Sq. Kms.

(iii) 32,63,395 Sq. Kms.

(iv) 32,68,090 Sq. Kms.

(v) 32,87,263 Sq. Kms. (Provisional)

(b) The area in 1934-35 included the area of undivided India. As a result of the partition of India, the area of India diminished. There is an increase in the area of India as at the end of the year 1962 as compared to area on 1-9-1947 due to inclusion of the area of the French and Portuguese possessions which became part of the Union of India. The latest provisional figure reflects more precise assessment resulting from improved techniques of survey and inclusion of certain gulfs and bays as inland waters.

(c) The area of India on 1-9-1947 was smaller than its present area, for the reasons previously cited. There is no question of reverting to the area as on 1-9-1947, which preceded the incorporation into the Indian Union of the former French and Portuguese provinces.

Criminal activities in Delhi University

2309. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the stabbing of an invigilator, Dr. S. M. Jaiswal, at the Sri Ram College of Commerce on 16th April, 1990: if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is a fact that criminal activities have increased in the campus of the University of Delhi ?